

# Tah Po Ska

Newsletter of the Friends of Kaw Heritage, Inc.

April 2006

## ***Allegawaho Heritage Park Update Bark Lodge Progress Report***

I just want to take a little time to thank (and boast on behalf of) our wonderful volunteers who are showing such enthusiasm and dedication to the bark lodge project at Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park. In February, when I updated the Friends of Kaw Heritage on Park progress and what needed to be done to complete the model bark lodge by September, the response was overwhelming. Numerous people spoke up to volunteer help, and by the next day we were out at the Park discussing sites and procedures.

It's particularly impressive that on the coldest day of the winter our brave volunteers (12 in number!) spent a total of five hours clearing brush and trees from not one but three potential sites and then hauling off seven trailer and truckloads of material.

After due consideration of drainage issues, the site chosen is to the right of the trail and fairly close to the viewing circle. We're now ready to excavate a 25-foot diameter circle prior to hardening the earth and placing the first support poles. Meanwhile, we need to de-bark as many as possible of the 200 logs, which are stacked between the Agency Building and the Kanza Rail Trail.

Dave Mitchell is our dedicated Site Supervisor and Volunteer Coordinator, traveling from Manhattan to oversee and work on this project. If you would like to help and haven't already contacted him, you can e-mail Dave at [dstmck@ksu.edu](mailto:dstmck@ksu.edu) or call him at 785-532-1092. Overall Project Coordinator for the lodges in Council Grove and Atchison is archaeological consultant Mike George.

Numerous members of Friends of Kaw Heritage

have volunteered their help, and Mary Honeyman, as always, is providing an invaluable point of contact. FKH member Ken Daugherty is contributing his time and equipment to the clearing and earth-moving phases of the project. It's also exciting to see the interest and participation of college students from Joyce Thierer's Public History class and Brice Overmeyer's Social Anthropology class from Emporia State University. We also will be using Boy Scout troops from Council Grove and Manhattan and will be involving Kaw Nation's Tribal Youth Program in the later phases.



**Enthusiastic volunteers brave the coldest day of the year to work on the Bark Lodge at Allegawaho Park**

What reward do all these great helpers receive? Mostly, the satisfaction of assisting in telling a chapter in the history of the tribe which was such a large part of the area's history. For many, the excitement is in learning the traditional tools, building methods, materials, and lifestyle of the Kanza. Kaw Language Director Justin McBride is sharing his study materials on lodge construction and providing Kaw vocabulary for the items and methods used.

You'll continue to see progress throughout the spring and summer, so visit the Park frequently to check it out. Many thanks to all those who are contributing your time, expertise, and spirit!

*By Betty Durkee, Kaw Nation*

## ***Kanza Memorial Tree Project Update***

Many thanks to volunteers Don Charbonneau, Sharon Haun, Mary Honeyman, Don Jenkins, Mel Koegeboehn, and Judy Parks for their generous assistance in planting 105 bur oak seedlings in support of the Kanza Memorial Tree project.

The trees were planted in three days during mid-March along the right-of-way of the Flint Hills Nature Trail between Council Grove and Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park. An additional 31 containerized trees were planted along the trail in January.

A sponsor of the project since its inception in 2002, the Friends of Kaw Heritage purchased the seedlings from the K-State Forestry Department.

This year's planting was more labor intensive than most because each tree was planted in a spade-dug hole. Previously, tree planters had used a Dibble-bar to open a narrow trench in the ground for the tree roots. The trees were provided tubes for rodent and deer protection and supplemental tablets for plant nutrition.

Nearly 800 trees are now established along the 3 ½-mile stretch of trail. The final goal is to establish 807 bur oaks as living memorials to the 807 Kansas named on the 1862 census taken by the U.S. government.

More work is needed to provide optimal growing conditions for the trees. In the next few weeks weed mats will be installed around the newly planted trees to reduce competition for soil nutrients. If you would like to help, contact Ron Parks at 620-767-7033 or [ronald@tctelco.net](mailto:ronald@tctelco.net).

*Ron Parks, Project Director*

## ***Symphony in the Flint Hills Needs You!***

Symphony in the Flint Hills is looking for volunteers to assist in the preparation and execution of the Inaugural Concert to be held on June 10, 2006 at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve two miles north of Strong City, KS. We need competent volunteers who are willing to give their time and energy to help create an enjoyable concert experience for our guests.



**Kansas City Symphony members warming up for a Kansas Flint Hills sunset at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve**

**Pre-event Volunteers** - Volunteers may begin serving immediately on the following committees: Marketing, Site Planning, Music, Fund-raising and Prairie Education.

**Event Volunteers** - Volunteers will be needed the week prior to June 10 for concert site preparation, as well as in the days after the concert for site restoration. Many volunteers will be needed the day of the concert to help as trail hosts, hospitality tent hosts, information booth hosts, greeters/ticket-takers, golf cart drivers, assistants for disabled guests and site cleanup.

**Benefits** – Free admission to the concert in exchange for certain number of hours worked; enjoying the ambience of the fresh air of the tallgrass prairie; being part of the first of a series of annual concerts planned throughout the Kansas Flint Hills; and, working with like-minded music and prairie enthusiasts.

**How to Apply** - Contact Louise Carlin, Volunteer Coordinator, at 620-273-8139 or [louise\\_carlin@partner.nps.gov](mailto:louise_carlin@partner.nps.gov).

## ***2006 KATP Field School Has Something For Everyone***

Excavations of a prehistoric site, artifact processing laboratory, soil flotation, classes for college credit, associated programs—the 2006 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school has it all! From June 3 through 18, participants can sample the entire range of archeological activities no matter what their level of experience or depth of interest. Project sponsors, the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA), invite the public to join in.

Under the supervision of professional archeologists, volunteers will investigate 14MO403, an archeological site east and south of Council Grove, where diverse resources have attracted humans for more than 5,000 years. Stone artifacts previously collected at the site suggest that people of the Archaic-age Munkers Creek culture (ca. 5600-4800 years ago) used the site. Pottery sherds indicate that Early Ceramic Hopewellian people (ca. 2000-1500 years ago) either lived at the site or had ties to the people who occupied it. Information compiled at 14MO403 during the field school will be analyzed by a volunteer team of experts. A project report will be published in *The Kansas Anthropologist*, the annual KAA journal, within two years.

Through the generous cooperation of the USD #417 School Board and Principal Kelly McDiffett, Council Grove High School (CGHS) will be the project headquarters. The registration packet, which includes details, is available in hard copy and at [www.kshs.org/resource/katpcurrent](http://www.kshs.org/resource/katpcurrent).

Field and laboratory activities continue non-stop for the 16-day period but volunteers may participate for a single day or the entire time. Volunteers unable to participate in excavation or lab work may visit the artifact-processing lab at CGHS during the day and attend evening programs. At Collectors Night, June 7, archeologists and curators from the Kansas Museum of History will identify all types of objects. Conservation advice, but no appraisals, will be offered. A tour of 14MO403 is tentatively set for June 8. Project findings will be presented on June 15. Times & locations to be announced later. For additional information, contact: Virginia A. Wulfkuhle, Public Archeologist, 785-272-8681, ext. 266; [vwulfkuhle@kshs.org](mailto:vwulfkuhle@kshs.org).

*Virginia Wulfkuhle, KSHS*

### ***Kaw Council 2006 Programs April & May***

**April 27 - John Patrick Murphy – *Zebulon Pike Returns to Kansas after 200 Years!***

Murphy will portray Zebulon Pike in historical reenactments dressed in full regalia as was Pike at the time he and his men escaped from the Rocky Mountains in the winter of 1807 when they were taken by the soldiers of New Spain. He tells of his early life, his marriage, and concentrates his portrayal on two expeditions into the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase. He tells how Pike changed the history of the world by telling the world what was happening in New Spain and how it was ripe for change and revolution and ends his program with Pike's death as the victorious general in the battle of York in 1813.

Murphy, a trial lawyer for almost 30 years, is a member of the Colorado and Wyoming Bar Associations and lives in Colorado Springs, CO.

### **May 25 - Mike Olsen - *Zebulon Montgomery Pike and American Popular Culture or: Has Pike Peaked?***

Zebulon Pike's name reverberates through the last 200 years of American history. Besides Pikes Peak, there are towns, counties, parks, national forests, monuments, lakes, dams, school districts, tugboats, and chapters of national organizations bearing his name. There are novels and an extensive juvenile literature touching on his exploits. But has his fame faded? Few people today remember that he sacrificed his life for his country in the War of 1812 or recognize the heroic suffering and privation of Pike and his men in his expeditions up the Mississippi and to the Southwest. Such was not the case in the nineteenth century, when Pike was celebrated in poetry and numerous laudatory biographies. This presentation will trace Pike's role in American culture since his death in 1813, noting how his reputation has changed from generation to generation.

Olsen teaches history full time at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He also taught for thirty years at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. His major research interest is in the social and ethnic history of the Santa Fe Trail. He has published extensively on Trail history.

## ***President's Column***

This being my first letter as President of Friends of Kaw Heritage, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Jeremiah Hershberger for his fine leadership the past two years and his many volunteer hours. The second thing I feel needs to be done is for me to thank all of the board members for their support and faith in me as their new leader. I look forward to the upcoming year and all it has to offer all of us.

Most of you know by now that a huge hurdle was cleared by being awarded a city grant for the remainder of the money needed for the Pow Wow. I appreciate the efforts of all those involved in making that happen. I hope that in the future that we don't come down to the wire on the time element, we will make every effort to avoid this next year.

I think we have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming year, it will be a busy one I'm sure. Betty Durkee, Historic Preservation Director for the Kaw Nation, had a wonderful update on the things happening at Allegawaho Heritage Memorial Park. There are improvements going on at the Council Grove area Flint Hills Nature Trail with grant money awarded. This is once again the year for the production of Voices of the Wind People and the moneymaking projects for the limestone amphitheater. I know I am looking forward to Symphony in the Flint Hills also, plus all of the great programs that are on tap at the Kaw Mission this season. I see no reason for boredom setting in for any of us, but if that indeed does happen for any of you please let me know, because I'm sure a job can be found for you.

*Barb Stanbrough*

## ***A Note And Kind Reminder From Your Membership Chair***

As of today, March 17th our FKH membership stands at sixty-three paid members. Forty-eight of our tried and true supporters have renewed. We have also added five new individuals, six new families, two new business and two new benefactors to the flock.

Thanks to those of you who have sent your dues our way, we're off to a good start but we still

have a long way to go. Almost half of last years' members have renewed and we are in hopes that many more will do so soon. If you are not sure of your standings feel free to give me a call at 620-767-6068 or call the mission and ask Mary.

*Fay R. Laughridge, Membership Chair, FKH*

## ***Site Administrator's Column***

Barb, it's great to have you as President! A warm welcome back to longtime Friend Helen Ericson now serving on the board. This will be a great year with this terrific board at the helm!

FKH supported Wah Shun Gah Days events are our next challenge! We have the funds to finance the Kaw Inter-tribal Pow Wow from the City of Council Grove Promotional Grant. A special thanks goes to Polly & Vern Hay, KJ & Ronnie Grimmett, and others who showed their support with donations. Your help is much appreciated!!!

Sharon Haun and Ron Parks were awarded honorary lifetime memberships at the annual meeting for their valuable contributions to the growth of FKH. The strength and success of FKH is, in large part, due to the creativity and dedication of these loyal Friends. Our thanks!

*Mary Honeyman*

---

The Name of this newsletter, *Tah Po Ska*, is the Kanza word meaning **teacher**. The Kanza people called Thomas Sears Huffaker their *Tah Po Ska*. FKH hopes each issue of *Tah Po Ska* will be a good teacher for our members.

---

**Tah Po Ska** is the official publication of the Friends of Kaw Heritage, Inc., a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Kansas. The purpose of the Friends of Kaw Heritage, Inc., is to promote and support the preservation and interpretation of the Kaw Mission State Historic Site and the history of the Kaw Indians in the Council Grove area by providing supplemental funding, volunteer services, advocacy, public relations assistance, community involvement and educational services.

The 2006 FKH Board officers are Barbara Stanbrough, president; Fay Laughridge, vice-president; Ken McClintock, secretary; and Loretta Keyser, treasurer. 2006 FKH Board members are Cynthia Engle, Wayne Engle, Helen Ericson, Jeremiah Hershberger, Don Jenkins, Peggy Jenkins, C.B. Smith, Jana Smith, and Malcolm Strom. Site administrator Mary Honeyman is an *ex officio* member and editor of *Tah Po Ska*.

---

## Kaw Mission Notes

- **Support your local After Prom Party!**  
Organizers are asking for gifts or contributions for prizes for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> event. Contact Ann Luce, 767-6758 or send checks to Ann made out to Teen Graffiti, Inc., 620 Columbia, CG.
- **April Bird Count, Saturday, April 8.** Don't miss your chance for a walk in Allegawaho with fellow birders. We'll meet at the Agency Building at 8am. Ron Parks will lead the pack!
- **Thank you City of Council Grove, City Council, and Grant Review Committee** for your generous award of \$2,935.50 in support of the Wah Shun Gah Days Kaw Inter-tribal Pow Wow! Thanks to you the show will go on!
- **Library Update.** Volunteer librarian, Helen Olsen is working her way through the Mission books and is nearly through acquiring the data needed for digital cataloguing. Helen's computer skills will give us a top rate system!
- **VOWP Amphitheater Project Update.** With the \$4,000 ECF award, MMM ticket proceeds, and individual donations we have \$ 6,442.90 in the fund now. Thanks much!
- **Thank you, Annie Wilson,** for your donation of two original pages from *Harper's Weekly* - May 25, 1867. We hope to frame and hang them in the Ed Center soon for all to enjoy!
- **Take a look!** While you are surfing the net please take a look at [www.zebulonpike.org](http://www.zebulonpike.org). It is a great site that will give you much good information on Zebulon Pike to supplement our Kaw Councils 2006 series of lectures.
- **Library Contributions.** Thank you, Bonnie McClintock, for tossing your books our way while 'weeding' your shelves. If any of the rest of you who has 'weeds' to contribute to our growing library, please throw them our way!
- **Vacuum Arrives!** No excuses now! With Jean Kraus' donation of a Kirby vacuum we'll pass the white gloves test every time. Well, at least we'll be able to try now! Thanks, Jean!
- **June 10, 2006.** Have you made your plans yet? Please visit [www.symphonyintheflinthills.org](http://www.symphonyintheflinthills.org) for more information and tickets. Better yet, buy your tickets at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve on your next visit and save yourself paying the Select-a-Seat charge.

Visit our great website at [www.kawmission.org](http://www.kawmission.org).

**Friends of Kaw Heritage, Inc.  
500 North Mission  
Council Grove, KS 66846**